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PENCE PAYS TRIBUTE TO INDIANA NATIVE KILLED IN IRAQ

Washington, Sep 23, 2003 — Washington, D.C.— Congressman Mike Pence paid tribute today to Staff Sergeant Frederick L. Miller Jr. of Hagerstown, IN, on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. Staff Sgt. Miller was killed while fighting in Operation Iraqi Freedom:

“I rise humbly today to begin to pay a debt of honor and respect to an American hero, Staff Sgt. Frederick L. Miller Jr. of Hagerstown, IN. Staff Sgt. Miller was killed Saturday outside Ar Ramadi in Iraq, 60 miles west of Baghdad when a bomb exploded next to his Humvee, according to the Defense Department information made public yesterday.

“Staff Sgt. Miller leaves behind a pregnant wife, expecting his first son, two beautiful daughters, grieving parents and a grieving community. Miller commanded a Bradley fighting vehicle assigned to Troop K in the 3rd Squadron of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment based in Ft. Carson, CO. He joined the army after graduating from Richmond High School and would have celebrated his eighth year in the service next month.

“Interestingly, Mr. Speaker Miller was discharged after his first tour of duty but as his mother said, he re-enlisted after 9-11. She said, ‘It was his purpose to save our country.’ He had a job to do and so he did it, Mr. Speaker.

“Staff Sgt. Frederick L. Miller Jr. is a hero and he died as heroes do, saving his country, and bringing hope and freedom to a people who have never known it before. I extend on behalf of the people of eastern Indiana, my deepest sympathies and fervent prayers to Staff Sgt. Miller’s wife and family as they grieve the loss of this heroic American.”

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